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September 14, 2000

TO: Examiner Beth Stephan, Group Art Unit 3635

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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 75002.0002

COMMENTS: Attached is a Second Preliminary Amendment and a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, including one sheet of Form 1449 and copies of the two documents listed thereon, for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/381,286

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T.W.

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)	Date of Entry into the
)	National Stage: September 16, 1999
SODER, James T. and)	
OSTRANDER, Bruce K.)	
)	National Stage Serial No.: 09/381,216
)	
International Application No.: PCT/US98/05433)	Group Art Unit: 3635
)	
International Filing Date: March 19, 1998)	Examiner: B. Stephan
)	
For: METAL FRAMING SYSTEM)	Attorney Docket No.: 75002.0002

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT Attention: DO/EO/US
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This document is being filed for the purpose of adding several new claims to the captioned application and is being filed together with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and copies of the two documents listed on the included Form 1449. Prior to initial examination, please amend the captioned patent application as follows, and consider the following remarks.

The Commissioner is hereby expressly authorized to charge the following additional fees which may be required, as a result of this Amendment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0858: any additional basic national fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.492(a) in view of the prior payment of the basic national fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.492(a)(4) at the time of filing the captioned application; any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.492(b) for each independent claim in excess of three as a result of the claims presented herein; any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.492(c)

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for each claim in excess of twenty as a result of the claims presented herein.

01 FC:202 468.00 CH
02 FC:203 234.00 CH

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

14. A system for framing at least a portion of a structure, said system comprising:
at least one of a base and an upper member;